

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	:
	:
Østergaard et al.	: Attorney Docket No.: 51402-226759
	:
Application No.: 10/565,437	: Art Unit: 3679
	:
Filed: January 20, 2006	: Examiner: J. Hewitt

Title: A SEALING ARRANGEMENT AND A COUPLING DEVICE AND A VALVE  
DEVICE PROVIDED WITH SUCH A SEALING ELEMENT

## RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated January 20, 2010, in relation to the response filed February 18, 2009 to the office action issued September 18, 2008.

The Notice did not elaborate on which claims were involved or the nature of the improper status identifier. During a telephone interview between the Examiner and the undersigned on January 25, 2010, the Examiner indicated that the status of claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 10-13, 15, and 17 as "previously amended" was improper. During the telephone interview the Examiner asserted that such a claim status identifier was not permitted by the rules of practice. According to MPEP 714(II)(E) "previously amended" is an acceptable status identifier to "previously presented". This was confirmed during a telephonic interview on January 25, 2010, between the undersigned

and the Examiner's supervisor Mr. Daniel Stodola.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 25, 2009

/Eric J. Franklin/  
Eric J. Franklin, Reg. No. 37,134  
Attorney for Applicants  
Venable LLP  
575 Seventh Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20004  
Telephone: 202-344-4936  
Facsimile: 202-344-8300